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THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2013

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BOROUGH HAS £1.4M IN THE BANK FROM PARKING FEES

AUTHORITY IS ONE OF ONLY TWO IN COUNTY TO MAKE MONEY

Northampton Borough Council is one of the vast majority of local authorities in England with a surplus from parking charges, with nearly £1.4 million in its coffers in 2011-12.

Figures released by the RAC Foundation showed English councils had a total current account surplus of £565 million from their on and off-street parking operations, up £54 million on 2010-11.

The data comes from the annual returns councils make to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The surplus in 2011-12 was £1,398,000 in 2011-12, down from £2,438,000 in 2010-11. This is the 111th highest figure in the country.

Northampton and Kettering borough councils are the only local authorities in the county to have a surplus. All the other councils have defi-

cits of between £67,000 and £284,000.

Parking enforcement and on-street parking are the responsibility of Northamptonshire County Council, and Northampton Borough Council is only responsible for the off-street car parks owned by the council.

Councillor Tim Hadland (*Con, Old Duston*), cabinet member for regeneration, enterprise and planning said: "Parking is an important part of our town centre; attracting shoppers and visitors to our town, and supporting local businesses. In the last two years we have reduced the cost of parking in our car parks, and introduced free parking schemes to encourage more people into Northampton.

"Any money we receive through our car parks is re-invested back into protecting frontline services and keeping council tax low for all residents."



Northampton Borough Council has a surplus from parking charges in 2011-12 of nearly £1.4 million

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Opposition fails to halt plan to shut respite unit

NHS bosses rubber-stamped plans to shut a respite centre and slash podiatry services, despite nine out of 10 patients voting against change, a report shows.

The figures from NHS Nene showed 66 per cent of respondents to a consultation on the closure of Favell House, in Kettering Road, wanted it kept open.

And 91 per cent of respondents to another survey, asking whether some patients with low-risk foot problems should pay for their own treatment in future, also said they wanted to keep the status quo.

However, NHS Nene has said it will go ahead with proposals to close Favell House and cut podiatry services, albeit with concessions.

It comes after several charities, Northampton North MP Michael Ellis, the county health watchdog and a scrutiny committee of councillors all expressed grave doubts about the fairness of the consultation processes, and whether proposals for care homes to provide respite on a large scale were even viable.

Mr Ellis said: "I'm shocked and disappointed at this decision. It confirms my impression from the outset that this was a decision NHS Nene had already made and the so-called consultation was nothing more than a box-ticking exercise.



"Clearly this whole process has been flawed from the outset and I shall be writing to the Health Secretary to seek his intervention." Campaigners said Favell House gave the carers of people with conditions, such as Parkinson's and multiple scle-

rosis, a vital rest from their unpaid 24/7 work.

But health bosses labelled it too expensive and said its funding should instead be used to provide respite care equally across the county.

Dr Darin Seiger, chairman of NHS Nene, said: "We want to

thank everyone who has taken part in these consultations, which have been a valuable listening exercise for the CCGs.

"We know how highly these services are valued by patients and staff and I hope they will see how their views have shaped our decision making."

How services will be hit

■ **Community podiatry services:** The cessation of low-risk podiatry was approved. However this will not now apply to children or to vulnerable groups "as a direct response to the strong feedback received during the consultation that removing the service from these groups could adversely affect their health and lead to longer term health problems that could otherwise have been prevented."

■ **Respite for people with neuro-degenerative conditions:** Future respite care will be available, on the basis of need, to residents in all areas of the county. However, personal health budgets will be offered, more will be done to ensure consistent specialist nursing, the changes will be phased, and Favell House users will be helped to find alternative respite care options over the next 12 months.

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Annie's advanced

By POLLY ALBANY-WARD
Reporter
editor@northantsnews.co.uk

An 83-year-old from Northamptonshire has passed her advanced driving test with the help of the Northampton Institute Of Advanced Motorists.

Anne Smith, 84, has more than 60 years' driving experience and can now drive to police driver training standards.

Ms Smith said: "I did it because I've never passed anything and I wanted a certificate to say I was good at something."

"I was always confident on the roads so I don't feel any different in that respect but it is habit to drive to these new standards now."

"I think it is important to note that these advanced tests are for all ages, not just older people."

IAM Northampton has been improving driving standards in the area for 35 years.

Through the Skills for Life package learners have an initial assessment, and then work one on one with an observer once a week until they are able to take



84-YEAR-OLD ANNE SMITH who has completed her advanced driving test. Pictured with John Norrie from the IAM

their test.

Ms Smith worked with observer, Dee German, for a year, clocking up between 50 and 60 hours' practice before sitting her test.

Ms Smith said: "It was fun. I think the IAM is fantastic, and it helped that I got on so well with Dee."

"Any success I have achieved is due to her dedication and pa-

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driving success



FACT FILE

- The IAM introduced the Advanced Driving Test in 1956.
- To date, more than 400,000 people have taken the advanced test and the average pass rate of around 75 per cent.
- IAM Northampton formed in 1978. Since then, IAM Northampton have helped more than 850 people to pass their advanced driving test
- The tests are accredited by the Driving Standards Agency (DSA).
- In 1956 the IAM took the police guidebook on driving and adapted it into an advanced standard for everyday drivers.
- More than 100,000 people are members of the IAM and there are a total of 200 regional volunteer groups.

tience.
"All observers give their own time on a voluntary basis, and I'm full of admiration for them."
The IAM operates in most of the country, and aims to

give drivers more confidence in their abilities as well as improving safety.
As well as improving their driving skills, IAM members also receive discounted car in-

"All observers give their own time on a voluntary basis."

surance from some providers.
John Norrie, chairman of IAM Northampton, and one of Ms Smith's observers, said: "Ms Smith was an argumentative pupil.
"But it takes everyone a while, as they have to reconstruct everything they do and learn it again.
"After passing their initial test people develop their own style of driving and we're trying to make people in Northampton better drivers."
Ms Smith worked as a voluntary driver with Northampton Voluntary Car Scheme, something which she had to give up when she turned 80, and the course with the IAM has enabled her to continue being involved with driving.
If you are interested in taking an advanced driving test with IAM Northampton contact Dee German on 07588 796348

ON THE WEB



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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Trevor Skidmore feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Northampton, Kettering, Wellingborough & Corby areas and Trevor is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for,

which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."
So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Trevor a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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Use of armed response officers is on the rise

Police officers in Northamptonshire are now carrying firearms more frequently to operations, but a top officer said it was not because the county was getting more violent.

Home Office figures showed Northamptonshire Police authorised the use of firearms in 182 operations between 2011 and 2012, a rise from 129 between 2010 and 2011.

Between 2002 and 2003, the force was authorised to use firearms in 138 operations and the most recent figures were a 10-year-high.

However, Inspector Steve Freeman, of Northamptonshire Police Firearms training unit, said this rise did not indicate a more violent county.

Insp Freeman said it reflected the way the force now responded to incidents where there was a perceived "armed threat".

He said: "Things have changed in recent years,



Armed police pictured on an operation in Northampton.

so command assess armed threats differently.

"For instance, say if we received reports of somebody carrying a sword or machete, this threat would be assessed differently. We would now use the employment of our officers to this sort of threat or operation."

He added: "We have not experienced more violent crime, in my experience, or more firearms."

He said the rise between the 2011 to 2012 period

also reflected the fact the county's force was targeting an organised crime group and a number of operations were undertaken involving firearms officers, as they looked to arrest them.

However, Insp Freeman added: "We do have officers who routinely carry firearms, but 95 per cent of the time they are dealing with every day procedures."

"Only five per cent of the time are they dealing with arms-related incidents."

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- A visit to Haworth on Saturday
- Free time in York
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FOR close to 20 years, Hear4u, Northamptonshire's largest independent family-owned hearing aid company has offered an unrivalled service to clients across the county. Now it is expanding.

Tyler-Jayne Bennett, daughter of the company's founders, Sam and Max, is setting off on her audiological career. September will see her begin her three-year university course in audiology.

Tyler-Jane says: "I am really excited to be joining the family business. I have watched my parents establish Hear4u since I was a child, and then my brother Max and cousin Kerry coming on board and gaining qualifications in the field of audiology.

"It has inspired me to work with my family because of their belief in providing excellent service to the client and their commitment to us as a team in

furthering our education to the benefit of the client."

To celebrate Tyler-Jane joining the company, Hear4u is running an open day across its 5 satellite centres in Northamptonshire with special offers for this day only.

Hear4u is committed to continually improving the services it offers through the education of all those who work for the company, advancing their knowledge of dispensing and fitting the latest in hearing aid technology.

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FAMILY BUSINESS: The Hear4U team. From left, Sam Bennett, 46, with Max, 20, Tyler-Jayne, 17, Ben, 49, and Kerry, 33

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Passengers travelling to and from London will be affected by repair work from next May.

Weeks of disruption during rail repairs

A series of closures on Britain's busiest rail route will affect Northampton rail passengers for more than five weeks from next spring.

A 12-mile section of the West Coast Main Line around Watford Junction station will be closed for 36 days between May 2014 and April 2015, as part of a £81 million Network Rail project to improve punctuality.

The restrictions will affect passengers travelling to and from London from Northampton.

London Midland, which runs the vast majority of services through Northampton, will be making alternative arrangements for passengers during the closures, which will be from May 3 to 5; August 8 to 25; December 25 to 29; February 14 to 22, and April 3 to 6.

The longer shut-downs

are the lesser of two evils, as Network Rail says it would take 54 complete weekend closures to complete the work. During the project, the signalling at Watford will be upgraded alongside new junctions and track, with the aim of providing better flexibility and reliability.

Paul Minton, vice-chairman of Northampton Rail Users' Group, said: "When Network Rail last came to us for discussions about the West Coast Main Line, we said we would accept longer closures if it got the work done. We were assured that would be it."

"It will cause a lot of difficulty for a lot of people. The 0700 and 0712 from Northampton are standing room only, and you are talking in the region of 1,200 people." You can't displace that many people in an hour."

Dyan Crowther, Network

Rail route managing director, said: "This scheme represents significant investment in the southern end of the West Coast Main Line to improve punctuality and make the railway more reliable."

"This line has seen tremendous growth in traffic and passengers over the last five years with the section at Watford being one of the most intensively used, high-speed sections of track in the UK. This work is absolutely essential to maintain the punctuality that passengers and our freight customers rightly expect."

Patrick Verwer, London Midland managing director, said: "We want our customers to have good journeys with minimum disruption. This is much needed investment and a series of closures is the quickest way of bringing the benefits of this major upgrade to our passengers."

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The end of the line for distribution centre

Supermarket firm, Morrisons, has confirmed it plans to close its transport operation at the Swan Valley industrial estate on the outskirts of Northampton.

Morrisons lorry drivers who contacted the *Chron* said they had been told a number of private haulage firms would be brought in to take over the supermarket's deliveries from Swan Valley.

They estimated the number of Morrisons jobs lost could be anywhere between 80 and 100.

One driver told the *Chron*: "People are gutted. They've all got to go out now and find new jobs and they know that won't be easy."

But a spokesman for Morrisons insisted the firm would strive to find other positions within the company for workers affected by the changes.

He said: "We have proposed some changes to our logistics operation to improve the efficiency of our business



GV of Morrisons Distribution Centre, Swan Valley

and reduce road miles.

"As a result, we have regrettably proposed to close the transport function at our Swan Valley site in Northampton. Our priority will be to preserve colleagues' employment and we will make available alternative job opportunities for those affected within our

business and, for some, the prospect of transferring to other companies."

The warehouse used by Morrisons in Swan Valley is owned by commercial property firm PMB Holdings. When they bought the site in 2009, Morrisons still had a 14-year lease on the building.

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Mallard 75th Anniversary

Departing Saturday 2 November 2013

On 3 July 1938, A4 class locomotive Mallard raced down Stoke Bank at 126mph to set a new steam locomotive world speed record. That record still stands. Mallard and its four surviving sister A4 locomotives will mark the 75th anniversary of Mallard's record-breaking run by gathering together around the Great Hall turntable at York. That's the three operational A4s - Sir Nigel Gresley, and Bittern - plus Dwight D Eisenhower, Dominion of Canada and Mallard.

- Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Yorkshire area hotel with dinner & full English breakfast
- A visit to the National Railway Museum, York to see the five surviving A4 locomotives including Mallard at The Autumn Great Gathering on Sunday
- A visit to Haworth on Saturday
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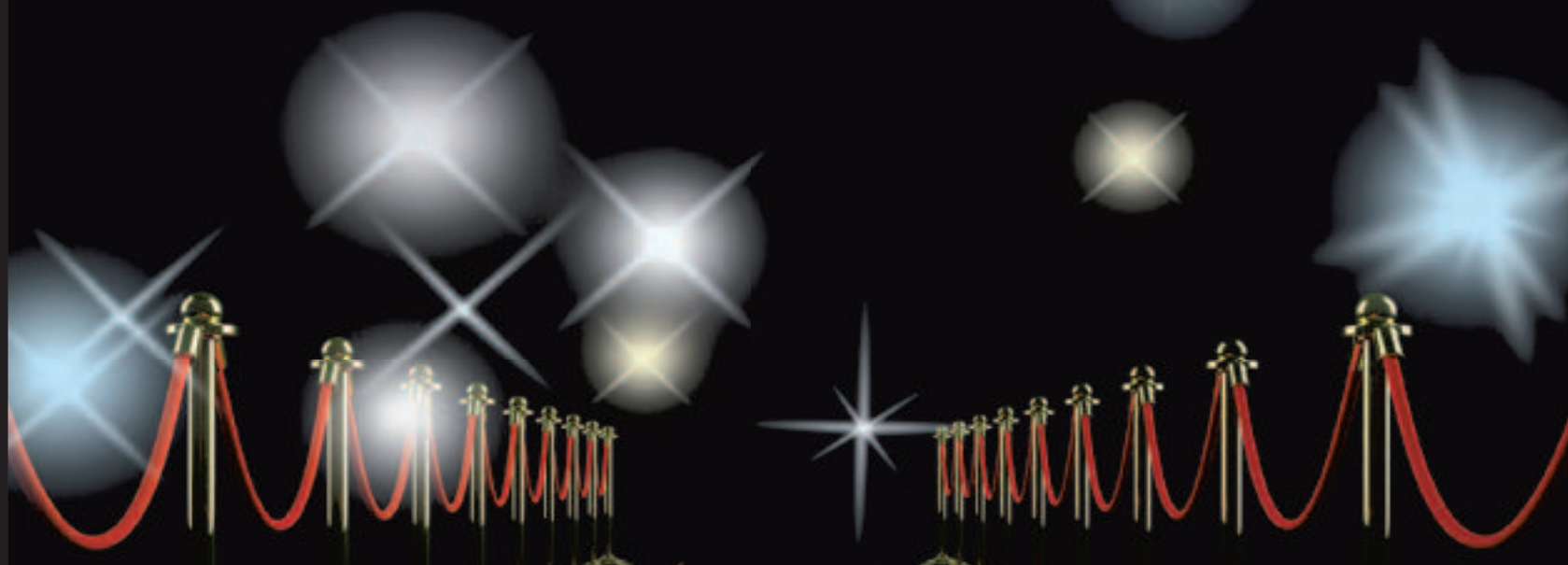
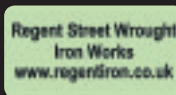
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Theatre school's hunt for a home

A Northampton theatre school which is developing young stars for the West End and television, is struggling to find a place to call home.

Top Hat Theatre School is run by a former West End actress, and several of its children have secured parts in television commercials and top London shows.

But it has come up against a number of problems when trying to find a permanent premises.

Principal Julie McKenna has tried to book sessions at Lings Forum, but said she had been denied on health and safety grounds, as their act involves baton twirling.

And her attempt to lease the old Conservative Club in Whitworth Road also hit problems on planning grounds.

The school currently rents a room at St Alban the Martyr Church, in Broadmead Avenue. Mrs McKenna has appeared in *Starlight Express*,



Grease, Happy Days and *Footloose*, and is passing on what she has learned.

Her pupils have secured castings in *Matilda* and the National Youth Ballet, and had auditions for a part in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

She said: "I'm not asking for money, I'm just asking for an open door."

"We have a new term in September and having our own premises is my big dream."

"If we get that, I will never ask for anything again," she added.

■ **The Top Hat Theatre School says it is helping children to stay fit and healthy, as well as teaching them new skills and improving their confidence.** Publicity officer, Tracey Clarke, said: "We have kids who are making something of their lives and we want to give them the best we can."

"It is about keeping kids fit and active, and it is difficult to do that when we are coming up against brick walls."

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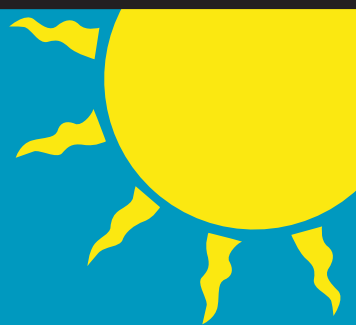


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Police faith-based scheme launched

A new office for faith-based and community initiatives is to be launched by the county's Police and Crime Commissioner this autumn, alongside a director who will earn up to £42,000 a year.

The office, which has a budget of £70,000 a year, has been created by Adam Simmonds with the brief of being the "driving force in developing faith-based and community initiatives across the county".

Mr Simmonds intends for the new office to liaise between organisations in the county, councillors and politicians and with other commissioners to boost community and faith-based initiatives and to "increase national dialogue about the valuable contribution of this sector".

The new office will be launched next month, along with the new director's role, which is currently being advertised on the PCC's website.

The full-time job, which will be based at Wootton Hall

and requires "substantial experience and knowledge of the faith, voluntary and community sector governance and practice", comes with a starting salary of between £35,238 and £42,126.

In an "executive order", signed off by Mr Simmonds, he said: "This office will enhance the capacity of faith-based and community organisations and groups to design and implement successful initiatives and programmes of work to increase community safety."

"The office will encourage creative approaches to crime prevention and community safety, aspiring to generate self-sufficiency in the organisations it works with and will promote robust evaluations to create a reputable evidence base."

"The office will be launched in September and will employ a director in a permanent post."

"Volunteers will be appointed to form an advisory council to enhance the integrity, objectivity and effective-



New Victims' Commissioner
Angela Sarkis is launched by Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds and Adrian Lee.

ness of the office."

For more information about how to apply to become part of the new advisory council, or for information about how to become a member, visit the commissioner's website at www.northantspcc.org.uk

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Motors

northamptonchron.co.uk/motors

Thursday, August 8, 2013

Northampton

Refinement and practicality

ROAD TEST BMW 5 SERIES GRAN TURISMO

BY JONATHAN CROUCH
www.motorstoday.co.uk

The changes made to this improved 5 Series aren't very far-reaching – tweaks to the styling, a slightly bigger boot and a wider more efficient engine range.

Still, if you liked the one before, this package of updates could be all the incentive you need to go ahead and try one.

Overall, on paper at least, it's hard to fault the thinking.

After all, there would be a significant number of luxury saloon buyers wanting SUV-style road presence and plenty need something a little less in your face.

Now all of these people had options before this GT came along of course, but these always required compromising on the core values that each group held dear.

In contrast, this BMW of-



Classy over long distances

fers more of what they want with none of the concessions normally needed.

This is a blend of upmarket class, refinement and practicality that once more proves the Bavarian mastery in making large heavy cars handle like much smaller, sportier ones.

It's over long distances at high speeds though, that it really comes into its own.

A Gran Turismo – just as BMW promised.

FACT FILE

BMW 5 SERIES GRAN TURISMO

PRICE: £37,605-£60,010

MAX SPEED: 149/155mph

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Model shown is AYGO Move 1.0 VVT-i 5 door manual £10,218. Excludes metallic paint extra £450. Prices correct at time of going to press. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of AYGO Move when ordered between 1 July and 30 September 2013 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5UZ before 31 December 2013 on a 3 year Access Toyota (PCP) plan with £169 deposit. *Payment shown is based on a 3 year Access Toyota (PCP) plan with £169 deposit and Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through Access Toyota. 1 year's free comprehensive insurance offer is subject to purchase being made via Toyota Financial Services on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) only and is available on all new AYGO models when ordered and financed between 1 July and 30 September 2013. Vehicles must be registered by 31 December 2013. All drivers must be aged 21 years and over. Offer is limited to the insured plus up to four additional drivers. The insured and all drivers must have held a full UK driving licence for a minimum of 2 years and had no more than 1 fault claim in the last 3 years. Offer only available to customers with no more than 1 minor motoring conviction in the last 3 years. Standard Toyota Motor Insurance Terms & Conditions apply (available on request) - these will be confirmed in the policy document. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.

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2006 £1500

Fiat

Fiat

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2009 £3600

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2011 £12,750 ono

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Tel: 07944 796655

1997 £7250 ono

Mercedes

MERCEDES B180 CDI SE



06, 2.0, saloon, 43,000 miles, black, diesel, 2006, ONE OWNER, PAS, FSH, MERCEDES, PARKING SENSORS, LIGHT INTERIOR, mot, taxed. £6,999 ono Tel: 07771571491

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1973

£5000

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2005 £1650 ono



PEUGEOT 206 CC 51, 2.0, coupe, 78000 miles, silver, petrol, 2001, Leather interior, 12 months MOT, 3 M tax.. £2,000 Tel: 07792252646

2001 £2,000

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1998 £200

Suzuki

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Tel: 07702285210

2005 £1,250 ono

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Tel: 07787 445086

2000 £1295



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Tel: 01604846900/07786451244

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02, 1.7, car derived van, 84000 miles, silver, diesel, 2002, A/C, 4 new tyres, new battery, new exhaust, 9 months MOT, no Tax. VGC, No VAT.. £2,200 ono

Tel: 07768512811

£2,200 ono

VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN

1.7, diesel, 2003, 108700 miles, VGC, roof bars fitted, 12 mths MoT, Tax end Dec £1750 ono

Tel: 07594 793753 after 7pm

2003 £1750 ono

**VAUXHALL VECTRA LS 16V**

1.8, 5 door hatchback, 89000 miles, red, petrol, 2000, many new parts Wollaston, £575 ono

Tel: 07594466193

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86025 miles, blue, 1999, MOT 2014 CL EW radio/Cd AC SH 2 owners VGC. £750 ono

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2007 £3395

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2003

03, 1.6, 5 door hatchback, 90,475 miles, black, petrol, 2003, Good runner, clean, very reliable. E/W, central locking, ESP, cam belt kit fitted March 2011. Tax til end Aug, MOT til Feb. Reluctant but genuine reason for sale.. £2,100

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1999

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Obituaries

COLES

Stella
Much loved Aunt
of Judith, Brian &
Family.
To know her was
to love her. Thank
you for always
being there.

HUGHES — Sylvia
(formerly Caple)
Peacefully fell asleep
29th July 2013. Always
willing to help others,
when herself should be
at rest, she was the
kindest of mothers,
Now amongst the
heavenly blessed.
Forever in our hearts,
Tina, Ian, Jessica and
Joseph x

Acknowledgements

GARDNER Ken 'Kip'

Joan, Steve, Paul and families would like to thank
all relatives, friends and neighbours for attending
Kips funeral and for all the lovely cards, kind
messages of sympathy and donations in aid of
'Lifeblood The Thrombosis Charity'.

Special thanks to Reverend Miranda Hayes for the
lovely service & to
Toby Hunt funeral directors.

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sometimes throughout the year,
just for fleeting moment
I think you're still here,
but life can never be the same,
for when yours had to end,
the world lost someone wonderful
and I lost my best friend.

Your loving wife Sheila.



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08/08/2013



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STRIKE A CHORD WITH ME Active and honest Abingdon female, 60, 5'4", enjoys reading, gardening and the natural things in life, searching for a nice man, to share friendship, days out and good company. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **144897** or send a text to **80361**.

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 61, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **100451**.

SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Separated, attractive Witney female, 61, 5'2", curvy, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **128289**.

I CAN HEAR THE BELLS Presentable Chesterfield lady, 63, enjoys TV sport, picnics, cinema and more, searching for a genuine Christian man, for friendship and perhaps more. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148271**.

CHASING DREAMS Warm-hearted, feminine and secure Daventry female, 64, 5'2", enjoys nights out, cinema and walking the dog, now searching for a stable, energetic man, for friendship and maybe more. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148489** or send a text to **80361**.

FRIENDSHIP CAN BRING HAPPINESS Honest, reliable Chesterfield woman, 75, enjoys listening to brass bands and quiet evenings in, looking to meet a male companion, for a long lasting friendship. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148388**.

LIFE'S TO BE SHARED Well-presented, sincere female, 78, 5'2", N/S, enjoys travelling to the East coast, meals out and relaxing at home, looking for a male companion, to share and enjoy a happy life together. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **147958**.



OUTGOING, FRIENDLY? Outgoing Northampton male, enjoys going to night clubs and night out socialising with friends, simply seeking a female companion, for friendship and possibly more. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148549**.

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CARING & CONSIDERATE Kind-hearted, active Oxford man, 37, enjoys staying fit, playing sports and fine dining with friends and family, would like to meet a similar female, for companionship and love. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **147290** or send a text to **80361**.

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PERFECT HARMONY Fun-loving, easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 42, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **130835**.

NIGHTS FULL OF FUN Outgoing, black Oxford male, 45, 5'8", medium build, no ties, enjoys going to clubs, dining out and bowling, simply seeking a sociable woman, who enjoys nights out, for fun times and maybe more. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148230** or send a text to **80361**.

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted and upbeat Oxford bloke, 46, 6'3", looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **130080**.

FUN AND ADVENTURE Professional, caring male, 46, 5'9", N/S, own home and car, enjoys days out to the seaside, seeking young-at-heart, honest lady, to spend quality time with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **146599** or send a text to **80361**.

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 51, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing female, for good times leading to more. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **135166** or send a text to **80361**.

ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER Considerate, blind Chesterfield male, 56, 5'7", own home, med build, enjoys the simple things and home comforts, seeks a female companion, to enjoy everyday activities and a happy life together. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148136**.

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 58, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **117916** or send a text to **80361**.

CARING NATURE Dependable, informed and responsible Witney man, 59, 6'3", looking for a helpful, decent woman, to share a brighter future together. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **111595**.

PERFECT TOGETHER Hard-working Oxfordshire male, 60, 6ft, widower, greying hair, smart, likes most things in life, now searching for an equally honest and genuine woman, to share love, life and true happiness. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **142767** or send a text to **80361**.

PASSION FLOWER Youthful, friendly Oxford chap, 60, 5'9", dark hair, enjoys cinema, bowling, active days out and socialising, searching for a loving, happy and loyal woman, to build a lasting relationship with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **101122** or send a text to **80361**.

MORE THAN WORDS Solvent, articulate, retired North Oxfordshire gent, 67, 5'9", own home and car, with a love of theatre, travel, motorsport and more, seeks an elegant, feminine woman, for friendship and love. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **132140**.

SOMEONE FOREVER Fit, widowed Mansfield male, 77, 5'11", own home and car, N/S, would like to meet my soul mate, a kind, affectionate, slim lady, for lasting love. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148123** or send a text to **80361**.

SOUL TO SOUL Fun, talkative and friendly Oxford guy, 78, likes a drink sometimes, just hoping to meet a bubbly, confident lady, to build a loving, lasting relationship with. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **100937**.



FRIENDSHIPS WITH FEMALES Straight, kind Bicester woman, 68, retired and missing the social aspect of work so looking to find some female friends or an established social group, for days out and friendship. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **147186** or send a text to **80361**.

I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU Attractive, youthful woman, 72, 5'1", N/S, enjoys home comforts, cooking and cosy nights in, would like to meet a gentleman, for companionship, love and happiness. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **148218**.



PUTTING THE SPARK BACK Easygoing, stocky built Oxford guy, 50, blue eyes, likes pubs, cinema, the arts, looking for a similar man 35-60, for companionship and hopefully we'll see where it leads to. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **115976** or send a text to **80361**.

MAKE A CONNECTION Interesting, friendly Oxford male, 64, varied interests, loves walks, reading, travel and more, seeks sensitive male, similar age, for a loving relationship. Call **0800 083 9743** and enter box number **857624**.

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For further information, please contact Cindy Bailey, Manager, Membership and Registration, email: cindy.bailey@bindt.org and, to apply, please email a CV with covering note to Cindy.

Closing date: 23 August 2013



Marketing & PR Assistant

Northampton

The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing is seeking a Marketing & PR Assistant to support the development and implementation of the Institute's marketing and public relations plan.

Reporting to the Publishing, Media and Marketing Manager, duties will include copywriting, proofreading and assisting with the production of a wide range of print and digital materials. Experience with Adobe Creative Suite for Apple Mac is desirable, as is previous experience in a similar role.

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SPORT

Artell available for transfer

Cobblers defender is heading for Sixfields exit

FOOTBALL

David Artell's Cobblers exit has moved a step closer after the club confirmed they have formally made the centre-back available for transfer.

The 32-year-old was not named among the substitutes for the game at York City on Saturday, with just six players making the bench and not the permitted seven.

Artell was signed on a two-year deal last summer after leaving Crewe Alexandra but an Achilles injury saw him sidelined for three months, after which he was loaned to Wrexham until the end of the season.

Matt Heath played at centre-back alongside Lee Collins at Bootham Crescent and while that player is only on a week-to-week contract, the club do not require Artell to leave before he can be offered something longer term.

"It's not a case of one in and one out but Dave's name has been circulated," confirmed Boothroyd. "We'll have a chat and see if there's anything come in from his end. If there

is, then perhaps there will be a little bit of money to bring someone else in.

"While I might be looking for one player this week, it might change next week because different players might become available."

Meanwhile, Cobblers boss Aidy Boothroyd has confirmed he wants to give the young forwards in his squad first-team opportunities before making a decision over signing a new striker.

"Everybody is talking about getting a new striker in but to be perfectly honest we've got Roy O'Donovan who has come from a higher level and scored a few goals towards the end of last season," he said.

"We've got Clive coming back and we took the lad Hooper from Newcastle and sooner or later you've got to give people a chance.

"Yes, we could go out and get a senior striker or a kid on loan but I don't want to do that until I've had a good look at what we've got.

"If you're going to have a youth policy and you're going to bring players through then you need to give them a chance."



Cobblers defender David Artell (left) has been made available for transfer

Ma'afu impressed by West

SALESI MA'AFU says Saints' renowned power pack was the main reason why he decided to move to Franklin's Gardens.

The 30-year-old tight-head prop has arrived at Northampton from Western Force and will be expected to fill the void left by the departures of Brian Mujati and Paul Doran-Jones.

Ma'afu certainly fits the bill, as he is a big scrummager, a strength demonstrated in his performance for the Force against the Lions earlier this summer.

And the Australia international says the chance to work with Saints forwards coach Dorian West and his impressive forward pack was too good to turn down.

"To come over to Saints, it's a club that's been going really well over the past few seasons and the work that Jim (Mallinder) and Dorian have done in the tight five especially is quite appealing to me," said Ma'afu.

"I can improve my game and reignite my football over here and that's a big

part of why I decided to join to team."

While Western Force struggled against the superior Lions outfit in most departments, the front row held their own.

And Ma'afu, who impressed at tighthead, admits he revelled in the chance to take on Warren Gatland's men.

"I was pretty lucky to have a run against them and it was a big occasion," he said. "I grew up watching the Lions when I was a kid and to actually run out against them

was special.

"It was a good night out, but for us as a team they were much stronger than we were but I was one of the lucky few who get to run out against them.

"We did a good job. It was the first hit out for them and they were still finding their feet but we were happy with the outcome of the scrums.

"Overall, the result wasn't what we wanted, but the performance of the front row was something we could be proud of."



Salesi Ma'afu is looking forward to working with Dorian West